

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AORG APER UN

SUBJ: G-LEVEL SALARY DISPUTE: NEGOTIATING SITUATION

REF: (A) GENEVA 2674, (B) GENEVA 2675, (C) STATE 84707

SUMMARY: ACC DEVOTED FIRST HALF OF THREE-DAY MEETING TO GENEVA G-LEVEL SALARY DISPUTE, AND FROM CONVERSATION WITH USYG DAVIDSON WE UNDERSTAND, AS RESULT, GENEVA JOINT NEGOTIATIONS WITH STAFF REPRESENTATIVES RE-OPENED WITH DEBATIN FUNCTIONING AS SPOKESMAN FROM UN SIDE OF ADMINISTRATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. USYG DAVIDSON INFORMED AMBASSADOR LATER AFTERNOON APRIL 8 THAT ACC HAD SPENT FIRST DAY AND HALF OF ITS THREE-DAY SESSION ON GENEVA G-LEVEL SALARY DISPUTE (A SUBJECT NOT ON AGENDA). DAVIDSON CONFIRMED OUR IMPRESSION OF DISARRAY AMONG GENEVA AGENCY HEADS ABOUT HOW TO PROCEED, AND INCLINATION OF MANY TO LEAVE ISSUE TO UN ADMINISTRATION TO RESOLVE. HE SAID ASYG DEBATIN (WHO PLAYED PRINCIPAL ROLE IN SETTLING PALAIS STRIKE) IS AGAIN IN CHARGE OF NEGOTIATIONS ON UN SIDE, BUT DAVIDSON EMPHASIZED THAT HE HAD COUNTERED EFFORT OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS TO DUCK COMPLETELY OUT OF PICTURE.

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2. NEW APPROACH HAS BEEN TAKEN IN WHICH DEBATIN WILL ACT AS SPOKESMAN FOR ALL GENEVA ADMINISTRATIONS IN FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS, BUT DAVIDSON SAID THAT AT HIS INSISTENCE OTHER AGENCIES WILL PARTICIPATE IN INTER-AGENCY DELIBERATIONS, WILL MAINTAIN COMMON FRONT IN ALL DEALINGS WITH STAFF REPRESENTATIVES, AND WILL BE REPRESENTED IN ROOM AT ALL MEETINGS WHEN DEBATIN DEALS WITH STAFF REPRESENTATIVES. HE REPORTED THAT FIRST SUCH SESSION UNDER NEW APPROACH WAS HELD MORNING OF APRIL 8.

3. DAVIDSON ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THIS NEW APPROACH INTRODUCED SOME CHANGE ON SIDE OF ADMINISTRATIONS IN NEGOTIATING ARRANGEMENTS WHICH BECAME PART OF STRIKE SETTLEMENT PACKAGE, BUT SAID ADMINISTRATIONS HOPED TO BE ABLE TO MINIMIZE NEGATIVE APPEARANCE OF THIS. IN ANY EVENT, UN RATIONALIZES THAT FAILURE OF JOINT WORKING GROUP TO AGREE UPON HOW TO "ANALYZE" BATTELLE SURVEY REQUIRES FRESH APPROACH. MOREOVER, THIS DELAY AND GROWING TENDENCY OF AGENCIES TO GO THEIR SEPARATE WAYS HAD NOW CREATED FURTHER PROBLEMS TO BE OVERCOME.

4. MOST SERIOUS IMMEDIATE COMPLICATION OF THIS SORT IS PAPER WHICH ILO APPARENTLY HAS FLOATED ON ITS OWN AS INTERNAL STUDY, BUT WHICH DAVIDSON EXPECTS IS BY NOW IN HANDS OF STAFF REPRESENTATIVES. HE SAID ILO PAPER EYEBALLS A POSSIBLE 15 PERCENT SALARY INCREASE, BUT ARGUES FOR SHADING THIS TO ABOUT 12 PERCENT.

5. WALDHEIM, WHO DAVIDSON INFORMS US ARRIVED AT ACC MEETING TIRED AND PREOCCUPIED WITH OTHER SUBJECTS, MAY HAVE HELPED TO STIFFEN BACKS. IN THIS TEMPER HE REFINED HIS VIEWS ON UN STRIKES (SEE SEPTTEL) AND WATCHED OVER RESTRUCTURING OF APPROACH BEING TAKEN TO GENEVA PROBLEM.

6. WALDHEIM IS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH PALAIS STAFF APRIL 9. WHEN AMBASSADOR QUESTIONED ADVISABILITY OF HIS DOING SO AT THIS JUNCTURE, DAVIDSON REPLIED THAT PURPOSE WAS TO "APPEAL TO HIGHER INTEREST" OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STAFF, UNDERSCORE GOOD FAITH IN WHICH ALL ADMINISTRATIONS WERE ENTERING INTO NEGOTIATIONS, AND TO REMIND STAFF THAT THERE IS INVISIBLE THIRD PARTY PRESENT, THE GOVERNMENTS WHICH MUST PAY THE BILL. WE UNDERSTAND FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT PRESIDENT OF STAFF COUNCIL (WHO WAS BARELY RE-ELECTED TO OFFICE APRIL 6 BY CLOSE VOTE OF 18-17 REFLECTING PRESSURE OF THE MORE RADICAL) WILL ALSO ADDRESS STAFF WITH WALDHEIM PRESENT. DALE

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